

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claims 1-26 (Canceled)

Claim 27 (previously presented): A vacuum cleaner fan, comprising:

an electric drive motor including a support cage configured to receive structural modules of the motor, the structural modules including a stator pack, a rotor and brush holders having carbon brushes and connector pins; and

a blower unit having at least a single stage, the blower unit driven by the motor and including a deflector, an impeller and a suction hood, the deflector configured as a cover for the support cage and including a bearing seat configured to receive the rotor;

wherein the support cage is configured to receive the structural modules to extend in an axial direction of the blower and wherein the support cage is configured such that the connector pins of the brush holders directly contact stator pack connectors, the brush holders disposed in or on an upper surface of the support cage that faces the deflector.

Claim 28 (previously presented): The vacuum cleaner fan recited in claim 27, wherein the support cage includes a rim that extends from the cage and faces the deflector, the rim including receptacles configured to receive the brush holders, the receptacles formed in the rim and open upwardly towards the interior of the support cage.

Claim 29 (currently amended): The vacuum cleaner fan recited in claim 27, wherein the support cage includes a rim that extends from the cage and faces the deflector, the rim including receptacles configured to receive the brush holders, and wherein the stator pack connectors protrude from the stator pack, ~~and include a rim that extends from the cage and faces the deflector, the rim including receptacles configured to receive the brush holders and~~ wherein the rim including includes

openings that extend into a wall of the support cage, the openings configured to receive the stator pack connectors.

Claim 30 (previously presented): The vacuum cleaner fan recited in claim 29, wherein the stator pack connectors are directly contacted by the carbon brushes.

Claim 31 (previously presented): The vacuum cleaner fan recited in claim 29, wherein the brush holder connector pins extend in an axial direction of the support cage, the brush holder connector pins configured to contact the stator pack connectors when the carbon brushes are placed into the receptacles.

Claim 32 (previously presented): The vacuum cleaner fan recited in claim 29, wherein the rim includes at least one further receptacle configured to receive a plug-in component group that includes electrical components configured to provide for at least one of switching, control and safety functions of the motor.

Claim 33 (previously presented): The vacuum cleaner fan recited in claim 32, wherein the electrical components are arranged on a circuit board that is insertable into the at least one further receptacle, the stator pack connectors connected directly with the circuit board during insertion of the circuit board.

Claim 34 (previously presented): The vacuum cleaner fan recited in claim 33, wherein the circuit board is configured to be placed in an adaptor housing in the at least one further receptacle.

Claim 35 (previously presented): The vacuum cleaner fan recited in claim 32, wherein a bottom side of the at least one further receptacle includes a socket opening penetrating through the wall of the support cage and configured to receive an external plug-in connection.

Claim 36 (previously presented): The vacuum cleaner fan recited in claim 34, wherein the adaptor housing includes the brush holder connector pins and the circuit board is placed in the adaptor housing or the circuit board includes the brush holder connector pins.

Claim 37 (previously presented): The vacuum cleaner fan recited in claim 36, wherein the adaptor housing includes further connector pins that extend freely into a socket opening in the support cage that is configured for an external plug-in connection.

Claim 38 (previously presented): The vacuum cleaner fan recited in claim 34, wherein the adaptor housing is configured to be inserted positively into the receptacle.

Claim 39 (previously presented): The vacuum cleaner fan recited in claim 33, wherein the electrical components include a decoupling capacitor and a thermal switch for the motor.

Claim 40 (previously presented): The vacuum cleaner fan recited in claim 34, wherein the adaptor housing includes a hold down bracket configured to hold down the stator pack.

Claim 41 (previously presented): The vacuum cleaner fan recited in claim 34, wherein the adaptor housing includes a lower housing portion configured to receive the circuit board and a lid portion linked to the lower housing portion.

Claim 42 (previously presented): The vacuum cleaner fan recited in claim 41, wherein the lid portion is flexibly linked to the lower housing portion.

Claim 43 (previously presented): The vacuum cleaner fan recited in claim 28, wherein the deflector is centrally affixed to the rim.

Claim 44 (previously presented): The vacuum cleaner fan recited in claim 28, wherein the rim and the deflector include one or more positively interfitting centering guides that are respectively

configured to mutually align the support cage and the deflector, the deflector including the one or more positively centering guides in a marginal portion at the lower side of the deflector.

Claim 45 (previously presented): The vacuum cleaner fan recited in claim 44, wherein the centering guides include at least one of pins, profiled protrusions and bores.

Claim 46 (previously presented): The vacuum cleaner fan recited in claim 44, wherein the receptacles for the brush holders are configured as centering counter pieces for the centering guides and are positioned at the lower side of the deflector.

Claim 47 (previously presented): The vacuum cleaner fan recited in claim 44, wherein the centering guides are configured as hold-down brackets for the brush holders.

Claim 48 (previously presented): The vacuum cleaner fan recited in claim 44, wherein the centering guides have a U-shaped configuration and are configured as hold-down brackets.

Claim 49 (previously presented): The vacuum cleaner fan recited in claim 27, wherein the stator pack is positively secured in the support cage.

Claim 50 (previously presented): The vacuum cleaner fan recited in claim 27, wherein the support cage includes at least one of support braces and receptacles that positively complement a contour of a stator of the stator pack.

Claim 51 (previously presented): The vacuum cleaner fan recited in claim 27, wherein the support cage includes a support cage bottom having suction air exits and configured to receive a rotor bearing.

Claim 52 (previously presented): The vacuum cleaner fan recited in claim 27, wherein the support cage and the deflector include a nonmetallic material.

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Claim 53 (previously presented): The vacuum cleaner fan recited in claim 52, wherein the nonmetallic material includes a plastic.